

Hi, my name is (your name). I have a message for:

[NB's Health Minister: Ted Flemming (1-506-457-4800;
Hugh.Flemming@gnb.ca)]

[NB's Premiere: Blaine Higgs (1-506-453-2144; premier@gnb.ca)]

[Federal Minister of Health: Ginette Petitpas Taylor (1-613-992-8072;
Ginette.petitpastaylor@parl.gc.ca)]

[Attorney General: David Lemetti (1-613-943-6636;
David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca)]

Schedule 2, of Regulation 84-20, under NB's *Medical Services Payment Act*, limits Medicare funding for abortions to hospital settings. Although this legislation was placed in the context of regulating physicians, its purpose has been to prohibit regionally accessible community-based clinics. A regulation whose primary purpose is to limit abortions except in certain circumstances is unacceptable.

In 1988, the Supreme Court of Canada found delays in abortion access create a clear risk of damage to the physical well-being, and harm to the psychological integrity, of women seeking abortions, and are thus unconstitutional. Requiring pregnant patients to travel hundreds of kilometers to access abortion, in a province besieged by poverty, snow, and recently flooding, disproportionately harms women and transgender people.

The *Canada Health Act* requires NB insure all medically necessary services - free of cost to the individual - in a manner that is accessible, comprehensive, universal, and publicly administrated. Yet, in the case of abortion, the Province allows differential treatment and under-inclusion of this essential health need. As such, NB is failing in its legal and moral responsibilities to its most vulnerable citizens.

I ask for:

1. The immediate removal of Schedule 2, of Regulation 84-20, under the *Medical Services Payment Act*, prohibiting funding of abortions outside of hospital settings;
2. The urgent development of reasonable and sufficient Facility *and* Physician Fee Codes, to ensure sustainable community-based abortion access in clinics regionally across NB, starting with Clinic 554 in Fredericton, and;
3. The development of sufficient "bubble zone" legislation to guarantee the safety of all who enter such facilities.

You may reach me at (your contact info) to confirm receipt of this message and of the province's plan to address this inequity. Thank you! (Your name)